

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

S E C R E T STATE 104235

EXDIS

FOLL REPEAT PARIS 10877 ACTION SECSTATE INFO LONDON,  
OTTAWA, MOSCOW 29 APRIL 75:

QUOTE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, FR

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR EXPORTERS CONFERENCE: FRENCH  
REACTION

REF: A) LONDON 6168 B) PARIS 10693 C) STATE 82055  
D) PARIS 10181

SUMMARY: BOTH MEMBERS OF THE FRENCH DELEGATION TO  
THE APRIL 23 LONDON MEETING OF NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS  
EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE OUTCOME. DE NAZELLE  
IMPRESSED US WITH HIS POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD  
THE SCHEDULED JUNE 18 CONFERENCE,THOUGH HE HAD SOME  
MISGIVINGS ON THE HARD LINE CURRENTLY TAKEN BY THE  
SOVIETS AND CANADIANS. HE ADDED THAT THE FRENCH  
TREATED SAFEGUARDS ON NUCLEAR EXPORTS SEPARATELY  
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FROM THE NPT AND THAT THEIR NPT POSITION REMAINS  
UNCHANGED. HE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISOR TO THE  
MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH WANT TO KNOW WHEN  
THE USG WILL REPLY TO THE FRENCH REQUEST FOR A  
BILATERAL MEETING IN EARLY MAY TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBLE  
RESTRICTIONS ON FRENCH NUCLEAR EXPORTS ARISING OUT

OF COCOM OR THE WESTINGHOUSE/G.E. LICENSING AGREEMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT A RECEPTION GIVEN BY THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH D'ORNANO FOR A VISITING U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY TEAM, MFA SCIENCE AFFAIRS DIRECTOR DE NAZELLE INITIATED A CONVERSATION ON THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS MEETING HELD IN LONDON ON APRIL 23 (REF A). HE WAS HIGHLY PLEASED WITH THE OUTCOME AND TOOK A POSITIVE ATTITUDE ON PROSPECTS FOR THE JUNE 18 CONFERENCE. THE OTHER FRENCH DELEGATE, GOLDSCHMIDT, ALSO EXPRESSED TO US HIS SATISFACTION WITH THE APRIL 23 MEETING. DE NAZELLE ADDED THAT THE SOVIETS HAD TOLD HIM HOW PLEASED THEY WERE WITH THE FRENCH DECISION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS MEETINGS.

2. DE NAZELLE NOTED TWO CONCERNS FOR THE JUNE 18 CONFERENCE: A) THE FEASIBILITY OF INSISTING ON MULTILATERAL REPROCESSING PLANTS AND B) THE HARD LINE BEING TAKEN BY THE SOVIETS AND THE CANADIANS. NOTING IRONICALLY THAT THEY WERE OUTFLANKING THE AMERICANS, HE COMMENTED THAT THE SOVIETS, NOT BEING NUCLEAR EXPORTERS, HAD NOTHING TO LOSE. HE HAD LITTLE TO SAY ABOUT THE CANADIAN POSITION EXCEPT TO AGREE THAT IT WAS OBVIOUSLY A RESPONSE TO THE INDIAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSION.

3. DE NAZELLE SAID THAT THE FRENCH GVT HANDLES THE NPT AND NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS AS SEPARATE ISSUES AND THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN THE FRENCH NPT POLICY NOR IN THE JUSTIFICATIONS FOR THAT POLICY (REF B).

4. PERHAPS THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE DE NAZELLE  
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INITIATIVE WAS TO DISCUSS THE ASSURANCES SOUGHT BY THE FRENCH CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE RESTRICTIONS ON FRENCH NUCLEAR EXPORTS THAT MIGHT ARISE IN CONJUNCTION WITH COCOM OR THE WESTINGHOUSE AND G.E. LICENSES HELD BY FRENCH NUCLEAR CONSTRUCTORS. SAUVAGNARGUES HAD RAISED THIS ISSUE IN A LETTER TO THE SECRETARY (REF C). DE NAZELLE SAID THAT DURING THE APRIL 23 MEETING, P/M DIRECTOR VEST HAD INDICATED HIS WILLINGNESS TO HOLD A BILATERAL MEETING ON THIS QUESTION. DE NAZELLE HOPED THAT IT COULD TAKE PLACE IN EARLY MAY, PERHAPS IN WASHINGTON.

5. COMMENT: DE NAZELLE MADE A POINT OF RAISING THE COCOM/LICENSE ISSUE IN THE PRESENCE OF MINISTER D'ORNANO'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISOR (PICARD), WHO

PARTICIPATED ACTIVELY AND KNOWLEDGEABLY IN THE CON-  
VERSATION. BOTH REFERRED TO THE POSSIBILITY OF NU-  
CLEAR SALES TO THE SOVIET BLOC. OUR IMPRESSION

WAS THAT IT WAS THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND RE-  
SEARCH WHICH WAS PUSHING THIS ISSUE. THE URGENCY  
THEY BOTH ATTACHED TO AN EARLY MEETING COULD BE EX-  
PLAINED BY 1) A DESIRE TO HAVE THE BILATERAL MEET-  
ING BEFORE THE JUNE 18 CONFERENCE AND 2) BY THE  
POSSIBILITY OF AN IMMINENT DEAL TO SELL REACTORS  
TO THE SOVIETS. DE NAZELLE WAS UNSURE OF THE NATURE  
OF THE RESTRICTION IN THE WESTINGHOUSE/GE LICENSE ON  
EXPORTS OF REACTORS TO THIRD COUNTRIES.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE  
BEING ADVISED WHEN THE DEPT CAN MEET WITH THE FRENCH  
ON COCOM/LICENSE RESTRICTIONS. WE WOULD ALSO AP-  
PRECIATE APPROPRIATE INFORMATION THAT WE COULD  
PASS TO THE FRENCH ON THE EXACT NATURE OF THE  
RESTRICTIONS CONTAINED IN THE WESTINGHOUSE/G.E.  
LICENSES. FOR EXAMPLE, FOR WHAT COUNTRIES DO NU-  
CLEAR EXPORTS REQUIRE A SPECIAL APPROVAL? WHAT ARE  
THE CRITERIA FOR SELECTING THESE COUNTRIES? WHAT  
IS THE MECHANISM FOR OBTAINING THE SPECIAL APPROVAL?  
(WE WISH TO UNDERLINE ONCE MORE THE IMPORTANCE THE  
FRENCH ATTACH TO NUCLEAR EXPORTATION, REF D, PARA  
SECRET

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2F AND 3C.)  
RUSH  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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